

2015

Meet the Staff







Cochise Health and
Social Services

<u>Legacy Project</u>

Compiled by Becky Holley



Cochise County and the Wild West; gun slinging cowboys and outlaws made all the rules here, even if it meant a deadly shootout.

It wasn't until after the O.K. Corral gunfight that Cochise County created a county hospital to better serve its citizens who were suffering from gunshot wounds, measles or being run over by their wagon, just to name a few of the ailments from that era. From there, law and order started taming the west and the Health and Social Services department started to take form.

Today, the department is made up of roughly 75 employees, all of whom specialize in many aspects of health, prevention and well-being. While each person's specific job may be unique, we work to provide a team spirit both within our divisions and across our department. Our organizational culture or "personality" has many characteristics. Some can be described as: caring, commitment, and community focused. All of our staff strives to help fulfill our mission, vision, goals and commitments to Cochise County residents. We are proud of our staff each and every day!





Cochise County Health and Social Services Director

Mary Gomez (2011- present)





Memorable Moment

"The Staff and Commanders at the Fort (Huachuca) treated all of us public health representatives like visiting dignitaries during our tour/visit for the presentation of this award. We are hoping that the publicity will spread to other businesses throughout our communities and encourage all to offer breastfeeding friendly space for their employees and newborns."

Mary Gomez-"Breastfeeding Friendly Award" Mary is a third generation Arizona native, born and raised in Morenci, Az. She graduated from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor's degree in Nursing in 1977 and later earned a Master's Degree in Nursing Administration from University of Phoenix.

Mary has dedicated herself to improving the public health conditions within Cochise County for many years. She is an avid supporter of both physical and mental health for all. Her positions have included Associate Director of Nursing at Benson Hospital, Clinical Instructor for the Nursing Department at Cochise College, Director of Nursing at Copper Queen Community Hospital, Director of Home and Community-Based Services and Director of Patient Care Services at Southeast Arizona Medical Center in Douglas, and then CEO of Copper Cities Physicians, a medical group with offices in Bisbee and Douglas.

Mary has worked for Cochise County since 2005 and is the Director of Cochise Health and Social Services. In this position, she is responsible for managing the Health Department and the Public Fiduciary's Office and the SEAGO Area Agency on Aging Case Management Program; she is also the Local Health Officer for Cochise County, Chairperson for the County Board of Health and serves on the Canyon Vista Medical Center's Board of Directors. Mary has lived in Bisbee since 1981 with her husband, George, and her mother, Evelyn, who celebrated her 101st birthday in December of 2014!



Environmental Health

Environmental Health Director

Michael McGee, RS

Mike became director in 2008 with a two year hiatus from 2012 until 2014. He started his Environmental Health career in California in 1986.

Staff

Dan Debee, RS, Environmental Health Specialist

Natalie Johnson, Environmental Health Specialist Aide

Carl Hooper, Environmental Health Specialist Aide

Tim Wyatt, RS, Environmental Health Specialist



administrative Services

Administrative Services Manager

Ray Falkenberg

Ray came to work with Cochise Health & Social Services in 2004, and has been the Administrative Services Manager ever since. He has offered the department his substantial financial expertise. Ray came to us from many years in the banking industry. He also serves as our department PIO for the Public Health & Emergency Preparedness Division.

Staff

Linda Greenwood- Account Technician

Maria Kennon-Payroll Technician

Donna Rothbauer- Vital Records Specialist

Jennifer Steiger – Program Coordinator, On Call



Ray Falkenberg, Administrative Svcs. Mgr,



"My favorite on the job moments are when an establishment owner and I truly connect and I can see they are truly interested in food safety and they continue to strive for excellence."

Jonathan "Dan" DeBee R.S.- Vector Control Specialist

"I can remember how extremely happy I was when I was offered the Accounting position with the Health Department! I swear it was one of the happiest days of my life! So here I am, 11 1/2 years later and I STILL love my job! I work with some of the best people I have ever worked with, and I have been in the work force for 44 years..."

Linda Greenwood-Finance



Nursing & Community Health Services

Nursing Director

Bethany Hill, RN, BSN, MSN, MHA

Beth became the Director in May of 2014. Before that, she was the Willcox site nurse. She started that position in August of 2012.

Staff

Catherine Welch, RN, Asst. Director of Nurses, Public Health Nurse

Jeanette Brislan, RN, Public Health Nurse

Kathy Lacombe, LPN, Immunization Coordinator

Nicole Sanchez, RN, Public Health Nurse

Cindy Sawinski, RN, Public Health Nurse

Sara Davidson, RN, Public Health Nurse

Radi Ann Porter, RN, Public Health Nurse On Call, Accreditation Coordinator

Maria Mena, Administrative Coordinator

Renae Whitaker, Clerk

Edith Enriquez, Clerk

Roxanna Garza-Roffey, Clerk

Alejandra Molina-Barton, Clerk

Tammy Fimbres, Clerk

Jackie McElyea, On Call

Frankie Bednorz, On Call

Lynn Mauzy, On Call



Memorable Moment

"I am an Ambassador/ Volunteer Wish **Granter with Make** A Wish Foundation. I have been with Make a Wish since 2011. I am a Wish mom; my son Herschel had his wish Granted in 2002 to meet Actor/Rapper Will Smith. I mostly volunteer within **Cochise County** granting wishes for children with life threatening illnesses."

Roxanna Garza-Roffey, Clerk



CHSS Nursing Staff has combined 257 years experience

Detention Medical

Detention Medical Director

Catherine Maddux, RN, MSN

Cathy has been an RN for 19 years. She worked the operating room to include being the manager, did trauma/critical care flight on a rotor wing, and she STILL works the Emergency Department at Copper Queen Community Hospital and Canyon Vista hospitals. She is a charge nurse at Canyon Vista Medical and has been the director at the jail for just a smidge over a year. She is currently finishing her Family Nurse Practitioner, and hopes to be practicing by November of this year.

In her free time, she loves to travel with her family. She has two sons, one of whom is a deputy for Cochise County Sheriff's department.

Staff

Linda Collins, RN, Detention Nurse

Gina Florez, RN, Detention Nurse

Megan Kennedy, RN, Detention Nurse

Leslie Wolfe, Correctional Health Technician

Oralia Dagnino, Administrative Coordinator

Cynthia Jacobson- Pennick, Detention Nurse, On Call

Sarah Richardson, Correctional Health Technician

Brandi Taylor, LPN, Juvenile Detention Nurse

Shannon Garcia- Reibschied, Correctional Health Technician, On Call

Alan McDonald, Behavioral Health Coordinator

to work; staff can face life and death situations with clients on a regular basis. But we always seem to pull together as a team, and keep a good sense of humor to get through the rough days."

"A jail can be a stressful place

Alan McDonald- Detention Medical





Prevention Services

Prevention Services Director

Judith Gilligan, MSW

Judy joined CHSS in April 2011. The Prevention Services Director is responsible for program development, management and ongoing funding of a wide array of grant-funded prevention and health promotion programs including WIC, maternal & child health home visiting, tobacco and chronic disease prevention, teen pregnancy prevention and health policy in business.

Prevention Secretary

Cindy Morales

WIC Program Manager

Renee Cooper, MS, RDN

Staff

Maria Kennon, Payroll Technician/Health Educator

Christina Rivera, Health Educator

Suzie East, Lead Health Educator

Tara Murrieta, Health Educator

Luz Ayala, Health Educator

Ani Marrero, Health Educator

Kelsey Arzaga, Public Health Nutritionist

Rosa Morales, Health Educator

Rebecca Morales, Health Educator

Priscilla Lord, Health Educator

Dennis Crossley, RD, Public Health Dietician



"Just a smile and telling my young moms (16 yrs and Breastfeeding) what a good job they are doing and what a difference it will make on their child is a nice warm feeling that can last all day, no matter how hard your day has been. I love what I do." Maria Kennon- WIC

Christina Rivera Suzie East Kelsey Arzaga Renee Cooper Rebecca Morales Priscilla Lord Luz Ayala Cindy Morales Claudia Morales

Mary Gomez Jean Cuveiller Judith Gilligan

Health Promotion

Health Promotion Manager

Suzanne Hagle

Staff

Jennifer Germain, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Health Educator

Becky Holley, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Health Educator

Jesus Duarte, Tobacco & Chronic Disease Prevention Health Educator

Roza Vickers, Tobacco & Chronic Disease Prevention Health Educator

Lee Itule-Klasen, Tobacco & Chronic Disease Prevention Health Educator

Ana Maria Flannigan, Active Adults Program Coordinator

"I live by Gandhi's "Be the Change You Wish To See In The World," and with that, persevere, work hard, touch lives, and make a difference for the better. That is what health promotion is about to me." Roza Vickers- Health

"The students I work with throughout the county really keep me on my toes! The questions they come up with never cease to amaze

Becky Holley- Health Educator

"I wasn't going to come to work today, but then I remembered I had a workout appointment."

I've been told this many times. The participants' names will remain anonymous. "

Ana Maria Flanniaan- Active Adults

Suzanne Hagle, Lee Itule Klasen, Jennifer Germain, Jesus Duarte, Rebecca Holley, Ana Maria Flannigan, Iris Alvarado, Roza Vickers



Health Start

Health Start Manager

Marilyn Godfrey

Staff

Letty Apparicio, Health Educator

Larae Swartz, Health Educator

Jeannette Cazares, Health Educator

Esther Valenzuela, Health Educator

Rayna Powell, Health Educator

[Job Perks

"I am nappy to work and see the difference that this wonderful program provides to many families, I am happy to see the children grow and I am amazed about all the things they can do and learn when you provide the education and the support!"

Esther Valenzuela- Health Start 1



Rayna Powell, Marilyn Godfrey, Larae Swartz, Letty Appricio, Jeannette Cazares, Esther Valenzuela

Public Health Emergency Prepedness

Public Health Emergency Prep Director

Elizabeth Lueck, BS, M(ASCP)

Elizabeth has been with the county for 11.5 years. Born and raised in Bisbee, she left Cochise County to pursue a degree at the University of Arizona. She spent the next 20 years practicing Microbiology in Tucson, before heading back home.

Staff

Brian Oertel, Surveillance Spec.

Barbara Hill, Secretary, On Call

Lynn Hu, Administrative Analyst

"The exciting part of our jobs is that we never know what to expect when the phone rings. Just when you think that you have heard it all, a new call comes in. Our favorite quote in our program is, "E-coli Happens!""

Brian Oertel-Surveillance Specialist



Public Fiduciary (aaa

Public Fiduciary/ AAA Director

Vicki Haviland, Public Fiduciary Officer

Vicki has been with the Public Fiduciary office for 16 years and in this position for 7 years. The Public Fiduciary office also oversees the Area Agency on Aging Division. The court appoints the Public Fiduciary for those persons or decedents' estates in need of guardianship, conservatorship or administration and for whom there is no person or corporation qualified and willing to act in that capacity. The Area Agency on Aging case managers provide coordination of services for the elderly and disabled such as home delivered meals, housekeeping, personal care, respite for family caregivers, and assistance with community resources and entitlement programs eligibility.

<u>Staff</u>

Yolanda Thomas, Case Manager
Gloria Acuna, Case Manager
Seanna Riffle, Case Manager
Marla Tamez, Case Manager
Deborah Holliday, Case Manager
Rocky Tuttle, Property Manager
Cindy Rodriguez, Paralegal III
Elly Tyler, Account Clerk III
Steve Anderson, Case Manager Trainee
Rochelle Pones, Case Manager Trainee
Keturah McCleave, Case Manager
Marla Tamez, Case Manager

Belvet Elsouhag, Deputy PF

"Growing up in Cochise County, I have always wanted to serve my community, being part of the Cochise Health and Social Services has given me the opportunity to reach out to families who have lived in Cochise County for generations. Being able to give back to my community has been very fulfilling and for that I am grateful"-Marla D. Tamez, Agency on Aging Case Manager

> Elly Tyler, Belvet Elsouhag, Steve Anderson, Rocky Tuttle, Vicki Haviland, Deborah Holliday, Cindy Rodriguez, Rochelle Pones

